

REMARKS

Claims 1 through 20 are pending in the case.

Claims 1 through 20 have been rejected.

Claims 1, 8 and 15 have been amended.

Rejection of claims

Examiner has rejected claims 1 through 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (1) as being unpatentable over US 2002/0054220 A1 (Takeuchi) in view of USPN 6,940,556 (Tamune). Applicant has amended the independent claims to emphasize how the claimed subject matter differs from the cited art. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection as to the claims as amended.

Below, Applicant specifically addresses the new arguments raised by Examiner and discusses subject matter in the independent claims 1, 8 and 15 not disclosed or suggested by Takeuchi. On the basis of this, Applicant believes all the claims are patentable over the cited art.

Discussion of Independent Claim 1

Claim 1 sets out a method that includes capturing an image using a color filter array, and detecting a plurality of color components of light incident upon a color sensor. Each color component is an amplified signal from a single photo sensor dedicated to generating the color component. This is not disclosed or suggested by Takeuchi or Tamune.

For example, Tamune discloses an image capturing device for scene analysis 86. Since image capturing device for scene analysis 86 is required to capture an image, it has to have the ability to capture many pixels of image information. For example, Tamune indicates image capturing device for scene analysis 86 is constituted of a single two-dimensional CCD having 480 separate pixels provided over 24 columns (across) by 20 rows (down). See Figure 3. Tamune does not disclose or suggest detecting a plurality of color components of light incident upon a color sensor where each color component is an amplified signal from a single photo sensor dedicated to generating the color component, as set out in independent claim 1 of the present case.

Discussion of Independent Claim 8

Claim 8 sets out a device that takes an image. The device includes a color filter array that captures an image. The device also includes a color sensor that detects a plurality of color components of incident light. The color sensor includes for each color component a single photo sensor that generates a signal that is amplified to produce the color component. This is not disclosed or suggested by Takeuchi or Tamune.

For example, Tamune discloses an image capturing device for scene analysis 86. Since image capturing device for scene analysis 86 is required to capture an image, it has to have the ability to capture many pixels of image information. For example, Tamune indicates image capturing device for scene analysis 86 is constituted of a single two-dimensional CCD having 480 separate

pixels provided over 24 columns (across) by 20 rows (down). See Figure 3.

Tamune does not disclose or suggest a color sensor that includes for each color component a single photo sensor that generates a signal that is amplified to produce the color component, as set out in independent claim 8 of the present case.

Discussion of Independent Claim 15


Claim 15 sets out device that takes an image. The device includes a color filter array means for capturing an image. The device also includes a color sensor means for detecting a plurality of color components of incident light. The color sensor means includes for each color component a single photo sensor that generates a signal that is amplified to produce the color component. This is not disclosed or suggested by Takeuchi or Tamune.

For example, Tamune discloses an image capturing device for scene analysis 86. Since image capturing device for scene analysis 86 is required to capture an image, it has to have the ability to capture many pixels of image information. For example, Tamune indicates image capturing device for scene analysis 86 is constituted of a single two-dimensional CCD having 480 separate pixels provided over 24 columns (across) by 20 rows (down). See Figure 3. Tamune does not disclose or suggest a color sensor means that includes for each color component a single photo sensor that generates a signal that is amplified to produce the color component, as set out in independent claim 15 of the present case.

Conclusion

Applicant believes this Amendment has placed the present application in condition for allowance and favorable action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
SEELA RAJ D RAJIAH
KHIN MIEN CHONG

By 
Douglas L. Weller
Reg. No. 30,506

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Santa Clara, California
(408) 985-0642